

EXHIBIT 19

DATE 1/22/13

HB Senior Long Term Care

As a PCA nurse and now an administrator I have seen many changes from hours authorized for personal care attendants, waiver and wages. When I started out in 1986 my wage was less than \$4.00/hr to 1999 when I was paid \$9.00/hour for the same type of work. PCA's work hard getting people up for their day, off to medical appointments or getting out into the community for walks, movies, sporting events, concerts etc through HCBS waiver program. Getting out of your home is difficult for some individuals because they have no one available and rely on their caregivers to help them. Socialization is key to good mental health for anyone. On the other hand some individuals feel that having their home spic-n-span is important to them or having someone help clean carpets, deep clean the kitchen to name a few chores and homemaker through waiver is what they want. Waiver helps with nursing costs to those individuals who need skilled care. Working alongside HCBS through all the years has improved so much. They are just a phone call or an email away to help problem solve or have a referral we work closely together to ensure that individual needs are being met through community supports.

With the rising cost of healthcare, it is a good idea that we have health insurance for them because people look for jobs who have some kind of benefit package inclusive of health insurance.

Caregivers skilled or not deserve higher pay. Not many of us can live on minimum wage and pay rent, buy groceries, pay bills and gas to get to work without assistance. Let's get these folks off of public assistance so they can feel better about themselves; the government isn't spending our tax dollars paying for these services saving us all money. More money could then go into waiver services to help those individuals with disabilities get better care at home. In the long run it is about living in your own home and not in a nursing home.

Leah Bessette LPN

Nightingale Nursing and Caregiving